GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3044
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017
Wastage of Fruits and Vegetables
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that fruits and vegetables got wasted due to non-availability of market and lack of processing, packing, distribution and consumption and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to effectively utilize huge quantity of fruits and vegetable wastes as livestock feed and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the processing for fruits and vegetables in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): A study was commissioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries and carried out by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), published in 2015. The study estimated that quantum of quantitative harvest and post harvest losses of fruits and vegetables were in the range of 6.70% to 15.88% (fruits) and 4.58% to 12.44% (vegetables) due to various reasons such as harvesting, cleaning, sorting/grading, packaging, transportation, storage channels weight loss in storage etc.

(b): Excess vegetable and fruit wastage like apple, tomato, potato, pineapple, carrots etc. are already used as feed resources. The processing technologies/models are also available to convert or preserve them as good feed resource. Indian Council of Agricultural Research − National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP) has developed Pineapple fruit residue storage based total mixed ration for livestock feeding and is promoting the technology. The States have been advised by this Ministry for creation of awareness amongst farmers & processors for conversion of fruit and vegetable waste as livestock feed. Further, Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) − ICAR has initiated a pilot project on Potato haulm for ensiling to use as livestock feed.

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF) has already taken necessary steps to increase feed and fodder production in various parts of the country by providing financial assistance to the farmers/cooperatives under Centrally Sponsored National Livestock Mission.
Contdâ€¦2/-

(c): Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) which includes assistance for establishment of processing units in North Eastern and Himalayan States. The assistance is provided as 50% credit linked back ended subsidy for processing units involved in horticulture crops including fruits and vegetable processing.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also implementing various programmes for processing of fruits and vegetables like Mega Food Park and Integrated cold chain which includes IQF etc.

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